TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION 1882 1957

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Appomattox, Virginia, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correspondence to the Times-Virginian, Appomattox, Va. Subscription rate: $2 a year, payable in advance. Single copy 5c. National advertising representative: Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc., 920 Broadway, New York City. Advertising rates upon request.

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS

The life-blood of a weekly newspaper, in our opinion, is the presentation of newsy letters from the various communities in the area served by the paper. Called "neighborhood Notes," these letters are read by a tremendous audience. They are the reason so many people who have moved away from their childhood homes, still subscribe to their home-town weekly newspaper.

Few things please the editor of a weekly newspaper more than to have a good group of correspondents, who can be depended upon to send in on schedule their community news letters.

We are sure that the publishers of The Times-Virginian are joined by our readers, at this season, in saying Merry Christmas and "thank you" to each and every one of our correspondents. We have some of the best! Some of them have been writing for this newspaper for many years. We are greatly indebted to them, and wish that we could show our appreciation in a more material way.

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ON CHRISTMAS TRAVEL

It is an unpleasant thought, but more people are killed during the Christmas Season, traveling home for Christmas and back, than at any other time of the year. There are a number of reasons for this.

For one thing, the Christmas holiday season comes at a time of the year when there is more darkness and less daylight than during any other major holiday period. For another thing, Christmas holiday season is a long one — extending until after New Year's Day.

Combined with weather conditions which are often poor, the long nights and the long holiday all join to make the Chresitmas season a deadly one for motorists and pedestrians alike.

We know of several friends, who, in recent years, have taken to the trains, rather than to the highways, even though they drive and might return to their homes at Christmastime by car. This may be worth considering for those who are finding driving more and more difficult, and who have long distances to drive or who have cars that are not in perfect condition.

We remind our readers that this year Americans seem to have cut down the death toll on the highways in a number of states and perhaps for the total national record. Unless this Christmas is a bloodier one than can be foreseen, 1957 may register some improvement in the national road toll. This is something we ask our readers to keep in mind during the remainder of this month, especially during the fatal days between December 20th and January 3rd.

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ON RATTLESNAKES

South Carolina is claiming a record in the rattlesnake field. It is claiming that a snake killed on July 31, near Hunting Island, is the largest ever killed in this country.

The snake measured over six and a half feet in length, weighed over twenty pounds and was thirteen inches around the stomach. The head was four inches in width.

This is a king-sized reptile by any standards. It is said that the stuffed snake is now valued and insured for $10,000.

As far as we are concerned, this is a record, but anyway we will wait to hear from Texas before handing out any titles.

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THE NAVY AND SUBMARINES

Recent evaluations, made in the light of experience gained in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization naval maneuvers this fall indicate that the ship with a future — in the Navy — is the submarine.

Although U. S. military evaluations are secret, it is widely known that many experts believe the day of the surface capital ship is at an end. On the other hand, many believe that a large number of super carriers is the answer to today's massive nuclear attacks, since obviously all of them will probably not be sunk in a surprise assault.

Whether or not super carriers in great numbers constitute part of the answer, or whether all such surface ships are eventually to become obsolete, the future seems assured for the submarine. It will be noted in this connection, that the Russians are concentrating on submarines to a great extent and are thought to possess over 400 of them.

The United States has two atomic powered submarines in operation, one of them not having proved entirely satisfactory, and a third about ready to join the fleet. Obviously, atomic-powered submarines, firing nuclear weapons, are going to be the submarine weapon of the future. However, these modern subs will face atomic depth charges—a formidable counter weapon.

It is probable that in any new emergency, submarines will achieve striking successes in the opening days, such as a German submarine did on October 14, 1939, when she sent four torpedoes into the Royal Oak in the supposedly secure base at Scapa Flow.

The methods to be used in the future will be different, but the submarine is to play an increasingly larger role in warfare, and it is highly advisable that the production schedule of our atomic-powered submarines be rapidly increased.

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"Injustice thrives on ignorance." —Dwight D. Eisenhower.

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It doesn't take a super-man to stand on the corner and throw mud at someone who is trying to do something.

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The trouble with most people, and nations, is that they want advantages without giving anything in return.

* * * * * * *

Trading in Appomattox is still a matter of good business judgment.

* * * * * * * * *

No system will guarantee loafers and incompetents a living.

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The hardest work of some people is to try to appear important.

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The individual obsessed with an idea is often a nuisance to his friends.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Bible Lessons for Christian Living

DR. D. BRUCE GARDNER, THE FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Philippians 2; Luke 2:1-20
Devotional Reading: Colossians 1:15-23

To Share Our Life

Lesson for December 22, 1957

THE baby Jesus we have been seeing everywhere these days. His picture is on the greeting cards, songs about him are sung mechanically for the most part on every street. Fresh candles are lighted in front of his statue in many churches. Luke 2 is memorized in a thousand Sunday schools. Now that is about all some people ever see or think about Jesus. He is the baby we have to hear about once a year.

Dr. Foreman

Christians know better than this. Indeed Christians, from very early times, never saw only a baby in the manger at Bethlehem. Here is no ordinary child, made romantic by the hardships of his birth. He is more than a symbol and example of the sweetness and helplessness of all babies in the world.

"Who for Us Men Became Man"

The Child of Bethlehem is the Event of all time. For this child is the Son of God made man. What men have often longed for, what poets have dreamed, what every man needs, here it is . . . only not as we expected. What we want is a God who is near us, nearer than heaven, nearer than Mount Olympus, yes nearer than the nearest temple. If possible—and who dared it could be?—we want God in human form. But what we might have expected is a very grand human figure, some super-man, born to power and majesty. What God has sent us is quite different: just a baby. A baby who cannot talk nor walk nor live without help, a baby born to displaced persons in the poorest of circumstances, with no very bright future likely. Yes, this is He. When God became man he came all the way. He came to share our life.

Sharing Struggle

Theologians say that Christ had a human "nature" and a divine "nature." The Bible seldom if ever uses such language. The New Testament just calls Jesus "He." Jesus himself called himself Son of God; he also called himself a man. (John 8:40.) The Nicene Creed, one of the most ancient and widely used creeds of the church universal, says that the Son of God "was made" (i.e. became) man. We can make this clearer to our minds if we simply say that Jesus shared our life. He shared it to the full, he identified himself with mankind. He shared the circumstances and the conditions under which all men live. We said just now that a baby born as Jesus would have no rosy future; and this was true of Jesus. His life was one of constant struggle. In his boyhood it must have been a struggle with poverty; as he grew older he had to wrestle with temptation, with misunderstanding and hatred.

Sharing Suffering

Possibly not all human life is a struggle, but there is no man with lifelong exemption from suffering. We know Jesus suffered on the cross; we often forget that he was always a "man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." We do not read that he wept on Calvary, we do know that he wept at the death of a friend. We know the Pharisees hounded him to his death. We forget the times when he was nearly lynched by angry mobs. He knew a kind of suffering which is harder for a sensitive soul than physical pain: suffering of the mind and heart. That his mother misunderstood him, that his brothers did not believe in him, that he "could do no mighty work" at Nazareth, his own home town, because of their stubborn unbelief.

Bearing Sin

One thing Jesus did not share with us: sin. And yet even this he shared in two ways. He always sided with the sinner, so much so that his critics called him "friend of sinners;" and in the end he suffered because of sin. Paul in one place writes, "For our sake he (God) made him to be sin who knew no sin" (II Cor. 5:21). This brings us face to face with the awesome mystery of the Atonement; but as a Scottish minister once said, the reason we do not understand the Cross is not because our minds are dull but because our hearts are too poor to understand love. If the baby in the manger had died then and there, it would have been sad. But only if that baby lived, and grew, and suffered, could the child become Man, giving his matured life a ransom for many.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

The Norfolk Naval Shipyard is not only the oldest Naval Shipyard in the United States, it is older than the Navy.

Play safe - drive carefully.

Give a subscription to the home county newspaper for Christmas. It is only $2.00 for a year.

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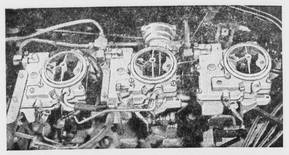

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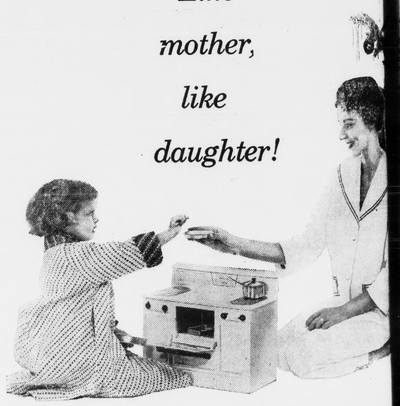

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That toy Electric Cleaner works, too. It really picks up dust. That is, if you can find any in Mrs. Modern's house . . . with its dust-free, year-round air conditioning by her new Electric Heat Pump.

Snowy-white doll clothes come from Miss M's toy Electric Washer. Just like the things done in her mother's All-Electric Laundry that saves 18 hours a month.

Yes, for the little girls or the Big Girl on your Christmas list, you'll find wonderful gifts at your Electric Appliance Dealer's. See him soon!

VEPCO VIRGINIA ELECTRIC and POWER COMPANY

CHURCH NEWS

...l Methodist Church
...A. Bergdoll, Pastor
...School, 9:45 A. M.
...Worship, 11:00 A. M.
...ject—My Gift For My
...

...Worship, 7:30 P. M.
...program will be pre-
...the Primaries and Juniors
...ch Schools, with music
...ior Choir.

...Methodist Circuit
...D. Smith, Pastor
...M. Bethel.
...Sunday the House of Christ-
...

...M. Trinity.
...The Good News of
...

...M. Mt. Comfort.
...Program.
...M. Trinity.
...Pageant.

...'s Episcopal Church
...Sunday in Advent)
...ers for Meditation and
...Prayer
...Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24
...M. Carol and Candlelight
...

...invited.

...ch Baptist Church
...J. E. Greene, Pastor
...School, 9:45 A. M.
...Program, 7:30 P. M.
...Service, Thursday, 7:30
...

...day Adventist Church
...ice Every Saturday
...P. Lawrence, Pastor
...1451 - Appomattox
...School, 9:30 A. M.
...Service, 11:00 A. M.
...The Heavenly Gift."
...

...Chapel Baptist Church
...S. A. Dean, Pastor
...School, 10:00 A. M.
...1st and 3rd nights, at
...
...4th mornings, at 11:00.
(tf)

...Appomattox Pentecostal
...Holiness Church
...r, Rev. L. A. Pfaff
...School, 10 A. M.
...Worship, 11 A. M.
...Worship, 7:30 P. M.

...y Baptist Church
...School, 9:45 A. M.
...Worship, 11 A. M.
...M. 4:30 P. M.
...Service, 7:30 P. M.
...Meeting, Wednesday at
...M. Evening Worship
...
...
...open for infants through
...n of age.

New Hope Baptist Church
Charles R. Addington, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M.
B. T. U., 6:30 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7:30 P. M. (tf)

Bethany Pentecostal Holiness Church
D. L. LeRoux, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M.
Youth Service, 6:30 P. M.
Evening Service, 7:00 P. M.
Wednesday night Prayer Meeting 7:30 P. M.
(1tf)

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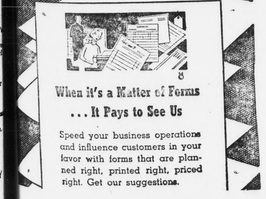

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Colored Dots

Impressive services were held at the Galilee Baptist Church last Sunday morning at the regular preaching hour. The pastor delivered a special message from the subject: "The Wrong Approach to Christmas." All present enjoyed the message. The church choir rendered special music. The offering for the day was very good. A special Christmas offering was presented to the pastor by the church clerk on behalf of its members.

The union Christmas tree program will be held at the Galilee Baptist Church this Sunday evening at 7:30. The program will be given by members of the Galilee and First Baptist Sunday School, Miss H. B. Stephens and Mrs. T. W. Hamlet will be in charge of the program. The public is invited to attend.

The public is invited to attend the regular preaching services at the Promise Land Baptist Church this Sunday morning at 11:30. The pastor will deliver his annual Christmas message. The church choir will render special Christmas music.

All officers and members are asked to attend the regular evening service at the Mount Shiloh Baptist Church this Sunday evening at 7:30.

Rev. N. R. Jordan will be the guest speaker at the Beautiful Zion Baptist Church this Sunday evening at 7:30. The program is sponsored by the church.

Mr. Vann Patterson has returned to his home here.

Rev. and Mrs. R. Q. Lawing spent Sunday evening in Petersburg as the guest sof her father and other relatives and friends.

An appreciative audience attended the regular preaching services at the Chestnut Grove Baptist Church last Sunday morning. The pastor, Rev. Jordan delivered a special message. Members of the Men's Club of the Pumpkin community attended the service. The offering for the day was very good.

Suburban Areas Have Half of All U. S. Building

Nearly half of all the building in the United States last year took place in the suburban and outlying areas of the nation's metropolitan centers, according to figures on building permit activity compiled by the U. S. Department of Labor.

This is close to double the proportion of the country's entire population contained in these areas, and indicates the broad impact of the growth of suburbanization on the building industry as well as on other areas of economic activity.

The figures show that about $9.1 billions of the total U. S. building permits of $18¾ billions for 1956 were in the suburbs and outlying areas of the metropolitan centers. This represented about 48 per cent of the total compared with 27 per cent of the U. S. Population residing in these areas.

Another $5½ billions, or 30 per cent of the year's building permits, were in the central cities of the metropolitan areas, which contained about this same proportion of the country's population. The balance of somewhat over $4 billions of the 1956 building permits was in the small cities and towns and rural areas combined. The proportion here was only about half of the 41 per cent of the U.S. population residing in these areas. The building figures include additions, alterations and repairs as well as new construction.

Discipline Kids By Rule of Thumb

LOS ANGELES—You baby may need a formula for his daily diet—but not for his family relationship.

So says Dr. D. Bruce Gardner, visiting associate professor of child development and psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles. Dr. Gardner's regular post is at Iowa State College.

"The parent who attempts to discipline his children 'by the book,' that is, by rules laid down by some outside source, such as lecturer, a minister, or a writer on child psychology, is going to have an uncomfortable if not unsuccessful parenthood," he points out.

Dr. Gardner suggests the following rule of thumb for child discipline: draw the line where you feel comfortable!

"Then you are more likely to be consistent in your discipline," he says. "Your words won't say one thing while your tone of voice and actions imply that you aren't really sure of the wisdom of what you've said."

In a few extreme cases, Dr. Gardner says, this rule of the thumb breaks down and parents should seek professional advice to help them review their values.

What Are Your Chances For Ripe Old Age?

NEW YORK—Family building starts at a relatively early age in our country, but in many cases the father does not live to see his youngest child become self-supporting.

A study of the chances of family disruption by death reveals that, for a husband, age 25, the chances are 50 in 1,000 that he will die within 20 years. These chances rise rapidly with advance in age; they are 120 in 1,000 if he is 35 years old, and 273 in 1,000 if he is 45.

Statisticians point out that in young families where the husband is 20, the wife 19, and the child an infant, the chances are 17 per 1,000 that one or more members will die within five years. The probability of death is greater for larger families and also where parents are older. Thus, the chances of at least one death within five years in a family which consist of five members are 26 per 1,050 if the father is 35 years of age, and increase to 58 per 1,020 if he is 45

Oil Money to Help Rebuild Islam Shrine

WASHINGTON—Modern oil wealth will soon help rejuvenate one of Islam's oldest and holiest of shrines, the Dome of the Rock, in the Jordan-held section of Jerusalem.

Through the ages this impressive example of Arab architecture has been restored and enhanced time and again. Today's plans seek first to make the structure sound and weatherproof in the face of weakening by wind, rain, and shellfire damage of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. Later will come delicate repairs of the famous tiles, mosaics and other decorations.

Nearly half a million dollars, a third of the sum needed, has been collected for the work, most of the donations coming from the prosperous, oil-producing nations of the Middle East.

CHRISTMAS AT WILLIAMSBURG

Williamsburg, Va.- Colorful and unusual events will make the Christmas season one of the most exciting times of the year to be in Williamsburg, which is making history live again for the millions of Americans who have visited the old Capital of Virginia and for the others who are yet to make their first visit to Colonial Williamsburg.

This year, the program covers a 15-day period, December 20 through January 5—and will feature colonial Christmas customs which will offer visitors and guests new experiences in eighteen-century life, according to the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce in Richmond.

Such traditional Christmas items as the Yule Log Hunt, caroling in the streets, and "at-home" entertaining will combine to make Chirstmas at Williamsburg as charming and as mellow as candlelight.

Holiday balls and candlelight concerts in the restored Governor's Palace, square dancing at the Williamsburg Lodge, and The Holly Ball, traditional year's end dance at the Williamsburg Lodge, add to the giety of the occasion.

The Groaning Board, a revival of the old holiday custom of sumptuous feasting with music and singing; a Holiday Plantation Party, an evening visit to Berkeley, an eighteenth - century James River Plantation with entertainment, and dancing and refreshments; holiday gambols, an eighteenth - century tavern party replete with music, colonial games and refreshments, are among the events planned for those who like something new and different, yet as old as America.

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